Second Regular Session Seventy-first General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 18-0820.01 Conrad Imel x2313

HOUSE BILL 18-1196

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Exum,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Todd,

House Committees

Senate Committees

Public Health Care & Human Services

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING AUTHORIZATION TO VERIFY THE DISABILITY OF AN 102 APPLICANT TO THE AID TO THE NEEDY DISABLED PROGRAM.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at http://leg.colorado.gov.)

Under current law, in order to receive assistance under the aid to the needy disabled program, an applicant must be examined by a physician, physician assistant, advanced practice nurse, or registered nurse. The bill adds to the list of persons authorized to perform an examination a licensed or certified psychologist, a licensed social worker, a licensed professional counselor, or any other qualified personnel the department of human services deems appropriate. Any person who performs an examination is required to certify the diagnosis, prognosis, and other relevant medical or mental factors relating to the applicant's disability.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

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SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 26-2-106, amend

(6)(a) as follows:

Applications for public assistance. (6) (a) **26-2-106.** application for aid to the needy disabled must not be approved until the applicant's medical condition has been certified by a physician licensed to practice medicine in this state, a physician assistant licensed in this state, or an advanced practice nurse licensed in this state. In addition to a physician, an applicant may be examined by a physician assistant licensed in this state, by an advanced practice nurse, or by a registered nurse licensed in this state who is functioning within the scope of the nurse's license and training, A LICENSED OR CERTIFIED PSYCHOLOGIST, A LICENSED SOCIAL WORKER, A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR, OR ANY OTHER QUALIFIED PERSONNEL THE STATE DEPARTMENT DEEMS APPROPRIATE. The supervising physician, or the physician, physician assistant, or nurse PERSON who conducted the examination shall certify in writing upon forms prescribed by the state department as to the diagnosis, prognosis, and other relevant medical or mental factors relating to the applicant's disability. An applicant who is disabled as a result of a primary diagnosis of an alcohol use disorder or a substance use disorder related to controlled substances must not be approved for aid to the needy disabled except as provided in section 26-2-111 (4)(e).

SECTION 2. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds,

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- determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
- 2 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.